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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICANT(S): SCHWARZ, R

SERIAL NO.: 09/938,274

ART UNIT:

FILING DATE: August 23, 2001

EXAMINER:

TITLE: SECURE POSTAGE PAYMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD

ATTORNEY:

DOCKET NO.: 770P009577-US (C01)

Box Missing Parts
Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies the Response to a Notice of Missing Parts dated September 17, 2001.

Please amend the Application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph starting on page 1, line 1:

AI
This is a continuation of Application No. 08/973,293, filed December 1, 1997, now allowed, which was the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US97/06831, filed April 23, 1997, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/016,082, filed on April 23, 1996, U.S. Provisional